

Roughnecks

THE PLEASURE WAS OURS

This may be the last Roughnecks newsletters as we have come to know it. Since the newsletter first appeared with the distinctive masthead on May 23, it has grown from a single page tabloid without any graphics to what you have before you. This newsletter is compiled by the Promotion Committee to keep the members of the association informed. Although Roughneck information is always given priority, community-oriented articles fill many of the pages.

What we have in fact is a gay community newspaper, under the guise of a newsletter for the Roughnecks. It is working because people want a gay newspaper; the time has come for a newspaper to form under a more encompassing banner. Indeed a new publication is on the horizon.

A dedicated group of people have worked together to produce this newsletter. They are Alan, Bruce, Doug, Grayson, Jerry, Kirk, and Ray. Some have left Edmonton for warmer climates but the remainder continue to put together a positive, informative, entertaining and at times satirical newspaper. They have not done it alone, but with the contributions from a vast number of people. It is with these knowledgeable, witty and hard working people that a city wide newspaper will prosper in Edmonton.

The Executive of the Edmonton Roughnecks Recreation Association deserve mention, for they endorsed the the original newsletter.

The formation of a city newspaper will mean the Promotion Committee will lose some of its members. The new publication will benefit from their experience.

In closing, the Promotion Committee would like to say that it has been fun and a pleasure.



ROUGHNECKS PROMOTIONAL COMMITTEE Left to Right: Bruce, Alan, Grayson, Kirk, Ray

Roughnecks

Edmonton Roughnecks
Recreation Association

December 3, 1982

Vol. 3, No. 6

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

For years I have carried the shame, the guilt, that untold secret, the fear of being found out.

Yes, I too wanted secretly to be a Roughneck. To wear that t-shirt with the unidentifiable logo, to walk into a bar and hear men gasp in appreciation of my sporting skill and ability. To wear a jockstrap and never have to wash it.

I decided to break out of my shell. To go where they separate the men from the boys - Sundays at Oliver School.

But what to wear? I looked through my wardrobe. The matching sweat suit? No, too perfect. These are men, not graduates from St. Trinian's Boys School. How about the pink Lacoste and grey flannel shorts? My God, who am I kidding! I'd look like the interior of Gillian's Restaurant. I decide on the faded t-shirt and old shorts with the holes worn out in all the right places. I used to think they were ready for the garbage pail, now they are considered hunky. Runners. Adidas? No, too clean - only suitable for tight designer jeans and dinner at Moms. I settled on the old high school no-name brand. Tight on the feet but dirty enough to give the illusion of heavy duty sports activity.

I arrived at the school. Which entrance? I skulked around trying

to run. What would I find inside? I shuddered to think. Perhaps a gym full of perfect tens? Stomachs you could wash your nylons on. Bigger chests than my sister. Thighs like picnic table legs. No, dream on - this is Edmonton, where the only gorgeous men are tourists from Vancouver. I lost confidence; could I sweat? And what about showers? Shades of Scona High School ran through my mind. I looked around for bags of chocolate chip cookies. I saw a ruler. No! I couldn't go through with it. Then a voice boomed out. "Line up, time to pick teams". It was time to put out or get out. When the going gets tough, the Roughnecks get going.

And here I go.

Dear Editor

On behalf of the Edmonton Roughnecks Recreation Association Executive, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the numerous individuals that gave their time and effort in making our "Rags to Riches" Dance such a success. Your efforts were well received and greatly appreciated.

Again, thank you for all your help.

Yours Truly,
Grayson Sherman
Secretary, Edmonton Roughnecks
Recreation Association

CHEF CHILD TELLS

Having recently attended the now famous or shall I say infamous Roughnecks brunch, an affair that is now held twice annually for the association's new and past members, I must indeed say that it turned out to be a pleasantly enjoyable midmorning.

While would-be chefs prepared beefy beef sausages, fluffy scrambled eggs, croissants and jus d'orange a champagne, most everyone else gathered in quietly tasteful groups, sharing tales (ha,ha) of their past Saturday eve hangover, waiting to chow down on wholesome food. As I looked about at this athletically enthusiastic group, I could not see a golden boy jock among them, just regular guys who enjoy the sports (like baseball and

volleyball) that the Roughnecks Association provides.

Despite the fact that this event is held to provide members with an opportunity to socialize, and welcome new members to the association, it has been my observation that very few new members attend these brunches. This is unfortunate because a lot of people work hard to provide and host this event and others like them. If functions were held more regularly and in greater variety it would help to eliminate misconceptions about our organization.

A word to the wise from the Chef Child, "Save the chicken livers!"

Keith



"OH, I GUESS I'LL HAVE WHAT HE'S HAVING."

FINE PRINT

...not to be overlooked

Add another name to the growing list of gay organizations in Edmonton. However this one is going to serve all gay groups within our community. Fine Print, a monthly publication will be Edmonton's premiere gay community newspaper. Fine Print will feature over twenty different departments, meeting

not only the communication needs of gay groups, but the community as a whole. News, features, entertainment and upcoming social events will make Fine Print THE news source.

Fine Print founding committee consisting of Walter Cavaliere, Allan Duncan, Mike Graham, Ken Hawrishok, Ray Linguanti, Kirk

Martins, Scott McConnell, Sue Morrison, Roger Sabot and Grayson Sherman are looking for interested and dedicated volunteers to help in advertising, production editorial, public relations and entertainment.

Tentative date for the first issue will be the last week of January.



FinePrint Founding Committee: back row (l to r), Grayson, Walter, Ron, Brian, Roger, Alan; front row (l to r), Scott, Ray, Wally, Mike and Sue.

Missing: Ken, Kirk

RHONA—BARES—IT

Well, well, well! Darlings – it really has been too long since last we chatted – really! Let's take a peek at whatcha y'all been up to. Oh yes, let's start with this – it really is just too juicy to ignore. We would like to give our Thanksgiving Turkey Award to whom ever organized the Tampons to Treasures Dance. Talk about your holiday horrors! It started when we made the mistake of picking up one of those grossly, humungously, oversized invitation that lay so haphazardly disturbed all over god knows where. You know the ones – the ones with that "macho image" on them. It was for one of those theme dances, don't y'all just hate those damn things? They are never any fun. It was one of the most intimidating themes we have ever come up against in our long tenure as a social columnist. Really, we were so confused, we didn't know whether to dress up, or to go casual – such a decision. We very nearly had a breakdown from the pressure. You must have had the same problem as the affair was only "moderately attended". Y'all must have been at home deciding what to wear rather than being away for the long weekend. And how dare they serve beouf bourginnone and croissants



when we pay five bucks for a dance! we want "real food"! And on that same note, the food was served much, much, much too late. Any hostess worth her whores drawers knows you never, never, never serve your buffet apres eleven o'clock. After all, when your guests walk in the door, you should be there greeting them, checking their coats, and handing them a plate of food. Has this hamlet never heard of Emily Post? Then there was that crowd. Who needs all those gorgeous, well

... well-dressed men? Y'all would think we were homosexuals! Heaven forbid! Like the old saying goes, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." – Hit the road, and better luck next time.

Oh! We almost forgot. 'Again we are the harbinger of news, or rather in this case, newspapers. It has come to our attention that the publication we now write for is folding and a, how shall we say, a news and improved version will be replacing it. We are personally crushed that our contract has not come up for renewal, but if rumours are to be believed, we may be asked to cover tres special events.

Speaking of tres special events, we understand the news newspaper is planning a gala event, a history of fashion (which should represent a cross section of Edmonton's closets) slated for mid January – so dust off your pumps and get out out pearls. Talk about your designer music!

So dahling, just remember when you least expect it, when you are getting down doing your dirtiest dirt, look over your shoulders (you remember the ones just built for spaghetti straps) and look for Rhona!!

Kiss Kiss!

WE ARE FAMILY

On Saturday, November 20th, teams from Red Deer, Calgary and Edmonton played a recreational volleyball tournament at the Commonwealth Stadium gym.

Red Deer fielded a single team; the Edmonton Roughnecks and Apollo of Calgary each had three teams. Three courts were kept busy for most of the morning.

Red Deer started weak but ended strong. Calgary must have played out most of their tricks the night before, since Edmonton proved to be the stronger contingent. Perhaps because Edmonton was on homeground, but more likely because a few of the Edmonton Eskimos were taking things in from the spectator galley.

A surprise turnaround occurred when the stacked Edmonton team went down to a humiliating defeat to one of the weaker Edmonton teams.

Al refereed the games. This is always a difficult job but Al's "good calls" were appreciated and respected by the players. The only complaint was that the high nets presented some problems to the short spikers. Someone should look into elevator sneakers.

Two well-matched, all star teams from Edmonton and Calgary highlighted the tournament. In two very close games, the spectators were treated to volleyball that is seldom seen in the Sunday afternoon sessions. Certainly, this was a good learning experience for any of the new players.

Despite great expectations, nothing happened in the locker rooms. Boring.

The Helo Deli was told to expect 20 for lunch. In fact, much to everyone's surprise, over 50 people including the spectators made their way there to feast on potato skins and bagels.

It was here that Ron Smith of Calgary presented Greg with the Greg Barker Memorial Trophy. This trophy had been given to Calgary in the summer at the baseball tournament. The once golden Lacoste shirt now sports Apollo colours (maroon

sleeves and grey body) on the left half. The alligator is now on the right side, replaced by a taut and straining left nipple – a nice touch.

This recreational tournament had a spirit of fun and was a meeting of friends from previous volleyball and baseball tournaments. The next tournament is the last weekend of January when Apollo is hosting the first annual Western Cup in Calgary. This will be an international tournament where the competition is sure to be stiff.

Burt, David and Bruce





DON WE NOW OUR GAY APPAREL

As we find ourselves in the midst of yet another festive season, in the spirit of the season we'd like to offer a few helpful hints on what to get and where to get it for that Special Someone, or for yourself.

For showering, after he's gotten up a sweat (be the endeavour athletic or otherwise) try Algamarin: a ph-balanced body shampoo made from sea algae. This soap has a clean, pleasant fragrance, and leaves your body thoroughly refreshed. The best buy on Algamarin is at the All Nighter - so pick it up the next time you are.

If a more lingering fragrance is what you want, to give or receive, try Antaeus Chanel's new scent for the holiday season. Another new fragrance is Azygos - which unfortunately is available, for the time being, only in the U.S. So call in any markers you have with your friendly local flight attendant.

Broadway shows are thoughtful gift but are somewhat out of most everyone's budget. So try the next best thing - an actual show poster from the big hits - Annie, Evita, A Chorus Line, The Musical Nine, etc., - all available from the Manhattan Gallery in the Standard Life Centre.

If your gourmet is a gourmand

then pop into the Bay's book department and pick up a copy of, "The Joy of Cheesecake". A must for the cheesecake connoisseur and right up there with the other joy of books. (We're eagerly awaiting Anita Bryants soon-to-be-released "The Joy of Beefcake". Ask for it at your local bookstore.)

To make his morning, why not drop in to Le Petite Marche on Stony Plain Road and make a selection of specialty coffees. Choose from Grand Marnier, Amaretto, Almond-Chocolate, or a dozen or so others. For the sweettooth try Neiderhaus Belgian Chocolates available at Holt Renfrew. (And we all know where they are!)

On the topic of sweets, there are two new (or very old) liqueurs which bear testing. Frangelico, a seductive Italian liqueur, made from wild hazelnuts and locally available through the A.L.C.B. or Chambord, an ancient French liqueur made from framboise (small black raspberries) If it sounds obscure, it is, again available in the States. Try Macy's on Union Square in San Francisco - and what a perfect excuse (as if you ever needed one) to go there.

Hopefully, some of the above ideas will help make Christmas '82 your merriest and happiest to date!

SAVAGE

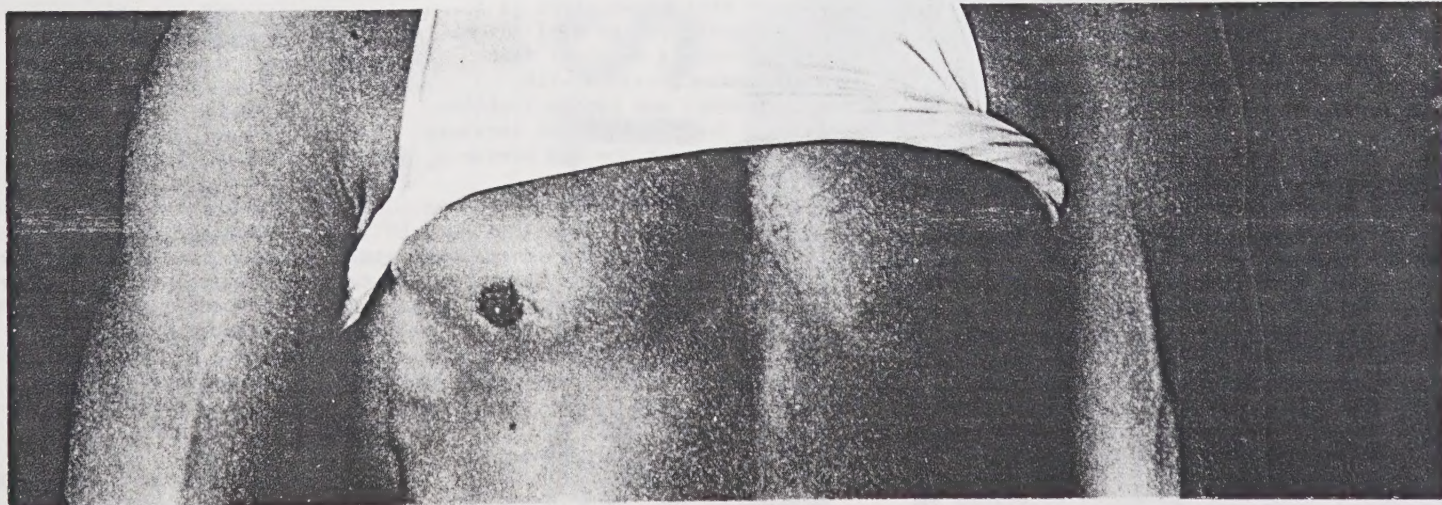
Picture 210 lbs, 6'2" of well chiseled blond manhood poised before you, clad only in the briefest of tigerskin loincloths (which is soon discarded) seething with sensuality - poised to strike out at your waiting vulnerable form. No, this is not a fantasy - but is such the thing dreams are made of. This moustachioed Adonis is Mr. California better known as "Savage", a stripper who along with two companions, has titilated the patrons of Calgary's newest gay

nighspot, "Woods". Despite the cliched start to his routine - you guessed it, highway patrol man disrobing to "Macho Man" - his smouldering sensuality and animal-like moves soon had everyone's temperature well above the boiling point. This man certainly knows what he is doing, he is truly a master of the art.

The other two dancers proceeding and following Savage's act stiff competition. The first dressed as a magician, pulled scarves out of the most novel of places and did

something with a carnation, a cigar and his crotch that defies description. The third, the proverbial "Sweet bird of youth" did little but move his lithe young body to a rather bizarre cavalcade of music. The show climaxed or considering Savage's placing in the show, anticlimaxed, with the first entertainer returning dressed as a chef and with a hand puppet cookie monster that brought new meaning to the term self abuse.

All in all, a not bad evening. By the way, Savage is straight. Pity.



COURT UPDATE

Well, here we go. Since our last report, MUCH has happened so let me fill you in.

To start with, an assorted group of seven Edmontonians went on a tour to Spokane for the coronation ball in that city. After a somewhat haphazard trip (including changing drivers at 100 km/h and an overnight stop in Fernie, B.C., parked in front of the gas pumps), we arrived in Spokane a mere seventeen hours after starting out. After checking into our hotel (the Ridpath which gets four stars so long as you don't dirty their towels), we proceeded to hit all the hot spots of Spokane shopping: the Bon, the Crescent, Pay and Save and last but not least, a fascinating shop called Rick's Classic Rags, a combination of classic used clothing and ultramodern, high-tech fashion.

After that, it was back to the hotel to the hospitality suite where liquor (gratis!) flowed freely from 4:00 until 6:00. From there, it was on to the "out-of-town" show where we Edmontonians cornered the market on applause with three of the biggest hands of the evening, including two standing ovations. Then, off to a final party for the evening where we procured a final party night cap and then made an explosive exit.

After catching a few token hours of sleep, it was down to the dining lounge for the heads of state brunch where Sam and Mrs. K. each picked up awards of merit for friendship and loyalty between cities. From then until 6:00 p.m., the day was ours to shop, visit the peep shows, cruise, or revisit the hospitality suite.

At 6:00 p.m., the festivities started again and carried on until about 2:00 a.m. Calgary and Edmonton carried off two of the more innovative entrances of the entire ball if only by proving that one needs not dress like an overly decorated Christmas tree in order to have people notice and appreciate you.

After the ball, again, the theme was PARTY!!! Most of us dragged ourselves in to bed as the sun was reaching its apex, only to stumble out again almost immediately to hop back into our van for the much less adventurous trip home. All in all, an excellent time was had by all, and Edmontonians can be proud that we made our mark.

Here on the home front, the Court hopes to host a Christmas dinner, though plans have not been finalised. Also, that notable of notable events, the Calgary Coronation Ball is coming up on January 22, 1983. We hope to have a preview of the Calgary showgirls at our function at the Phoenix Hall on

January 15, and, heading a way into the future, plan for the Entertainer of the Year Award Night, in early March.

That's about all for now folks.

Mrs. K.

P.S. There's a Court meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday December 12. See me, or Daryl at Boots, for details if you're interested.

GATE COUNCILLORS COURSE

GATE will offer a course for peer counsellors starting in January. If you wish any information please leave your name, address and phone number at GATE 424-8361.

GAY FATHERS UPDATE

Gay Fathers is a social and support group for gay men that have children. On Tuesday, December 7th, Gay Fathers is holding a pot luck Christmas Brunch. Everyone is welcome. For further information regarding the time and place, please contact G.A.T.E. at 424-8361.

MCC UPDATE

The Metropolitan Community Church celebrated their founding 14 years ago on October 3. In that short time they have grown to over 600 churches throughout the world. The newest churches have been formed in Hamilton and North Vancouver. The biennial international convention of the Universal Fellowship of MCC will be held in Canada for the first time this summer (July 11-17 Toronto).

Several of us celebrate Christ's Birth with MCC. God was revealed in the life of Jesus Christ and for Christians, one of the high feast days is Christ's Mass on December 25. Around that event there is a period of anticipation call Advent (Coming) which is a set of four special Sunday services with readings, songs and candle lighting.

Join us for these Advent services at 7:30 106 Street and 110 Avenue 421-8552.

Sun Nov 28 Advent 1, Holy Communion
Sun Dec 5 Advent 2, Holy Communion
Sun Dec 12 Advent 3, Holy Communion
Sun Dec 19 Advent 4, Holy Communion
Fri Dec 24 Carols by candlelight at 7:30

Sat Dec 25 Christ's Birthday Party feast at 4:30 worship at 7:30

Sat Dec 26 pot luck supper 6:00 worship at 7:30

Sun Jan 2 Epiphany - the Magi arrives - The Word is Out, worship and Holy Communion at 7:30

MINORS ALLOWED

Young gays and lesbians have long needed a place to meet socially. Now they have a chance to form their own group.

Young people, just coming out and accepting their sexuality are often at a loss as to how to meet their peers. Clubs and G.A.T.E. have age restrictions so a gay youth group is being formed for 16 to 20 year olds. The group is co-sponsored by G.A.T.E. and the Unitarian Church with input from McMan Youth Services. The organizers are 17 to 22 years old and are holding the first meeting on Saturday, December 18 at G.A.T.E., 10173 - 104 Street at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Stephen on Mondays, Greg or David on Sunday afternoons, or Walter on Saturday evenings at 424-8361. All gay men and lesbians 16 to 20 are invited.

Stephen J.

PDC UPDATE

The Pisces Bath raid of May 1981 may yet come to haunt the provincial courts and city police. On Friday November 5, the Court of Appeals handed down another reversal granting an absolute discharge to found-in Michael Phair. Shelly Miller, lawyer for the defense, indicates that at the appeal level she has won three cases, lost one and a fifth and final decision is pending. The higher court continues to find in favour of the found-ins, overturning decisions made by judges of the provincial court. The Privacy Defence Committee (PDC) predicts that this needless raid will go down in Edmonton as a costly defeat for the police's morality squad and neandrthral city powers that approve such activities.

WOMONSPACE UPDATE

Womonspace holds meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at Every Woman's Place, 9926 - 112 St.

Womonspace is having a ski-trip to Sunshine Village and Lake Louise, February 11th thru the 13th. The cost is \$120.00 for downhill skiers and \$80.00 for cross-country skiers, which covers accomodation and transportation. A 50 per-cent deposit is required by November 15th. For further information regarding the ski trip contact, Chris, at 962-6522.

For further information regarding Womonspace activities please contact Louise or Jeanne at 488-2290.

JERRY ARE YOU QUEER BOY

Early this month, American fundamentalist preacher and founder of the Moral Majority, Jerry Falwell visited Edmonton. To mark the occasion, members of G.A.T.E., Metropolitan Community Church, and Dignity were on hand to protest (albeit ineffectually) his visit.

The protest group arrived at the Jubilee Auditorium late, missing the early crowd entering the rally. The Falwell organizer informed them that if they stayed in front of the door of the Jubilee, he would complain to the police who were standing nearby. The protesters then moved to the parking lot missing most late comers. After noting three independent protesters with signs at the entrance, the gay protesters moved back to the Jubilee, just in time to be interviewed by the Journal, Sun, and CFRN-TV. Very little of what was said was reported. Dignity and MCC insisted that being gay and Christian is not a contradiction whereas Falwell would have gays disenfranchized from Christianity because they have "chosen" a gay lifestyle.

Robert Mattiole Matthew Shumaker

OUT OF THE CLOSET, INTO THE OFFICE

By the time you read this, a meeting on Sunday November 14 will be a thing of the past. But as I write, we are planning to discuss acquiring a large hassle-free space to house the activities of, among others, the lesbian and gay community.

Promotion of the meeting has been aimed at many liberal group, but the majority of responses seem to be from women's and gay men's groups. The main concerns dictate that the complex or building have a common area, private offices, meeting rooms and a large space to hold fundraising events such as dances or coffee houses. Other than maintaining the facilities, each group need have nothing to do with the others, though a common facility would ensure that we would at least see each other regularly in the hallways, contact we rarely have now. Small steps are fine as long as they are forward.

The meeting is being organized by 6 or 7 people, unofficially representing many organizations. We have decided to temporarily refer to this idea as the search for the Gala Building. Similar actions are being taken by the Calgary Lambda Society aiming for a Lambda House. They are presently seeking incorporation and are raising funds. For further information contact Matthew at 454-3079 or Jeanne at 433-3559.

EDMONTON'S
ONLY ALL
MALE
TAVERN!

10242 - 106 st
EDMONTON
CANADA

BOOTS 'N SADDLE





Merry
Christmas
from the
Roughnecks

DECEMBER and JANUARY

tues

14 LADIES NIGHT @
FLASHBACK.
WOMONSPACE GENERAL MEETING.

28 "FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS
IT'S GOING TO BE A BUNNY
NIGHT." BETTE DAVIS
ALL ABOUT EVE. PRINCESS THEATRE

wed

1 G.A.T.E. : GENERAL
MEETING.

15 CLASSICAL EVENING
@ THE ROSE.
MENS NIGHT @ FLASHBACK.

29

thurs

2 ONLY 20 SHOPPING
DAYS UNTIL
CHRISTMAS


16

30

fri

3 FINAL EDITION
ROUGHNECKS NEWS
"COLLECTORS EDITION"

17 7-SHOPPING DAYS
UNTIL
CHRISTMAS!!

31 "FLASHBACK FOLLIES"
HAPPY NEWS YEAR! 

sat

4 G.A.T.E. CHRISTMAS
DANCE @ PHOENIX
HALL

18 GAY-LESBIAN YOUTH
GROUP MEETING
6:30 P.M. @ G.A.T.E.

1 START THE YEAR WITH A
BANG!

sun

5 ADVENT II M.C.C.
HOLY COMMUNION
7:30 P.M.

19 ROUGHNECKS VOLLEYBALL
OLIVER SCHOOL 1:00-6:00

2 RECOVERATE
(QUIET PLEASE)

mon

6 PRINCESS THEATRE:
"LA CAGE AUX FOLLES"
9:30 P.M.

20

3 THREE SHOPPING DAZ
TILL UKRAINIAN
CHRISTMAS

tues

7 GAY FATHERS
POT LUCK
CHRISTMAS.

21 PRINCESS THEATRE:
"THE MAGIC
7:00 P.M. CHRISTIAN"

4 GET SERIOUS AND BREAK
A NEW YEARS
RESOLUTION!

wed

8 MENS NIGHT @
FLASHBACK
ROUGHNECKS ON TAP!!!

22

5 GATE. GENERAL
MEETING.

thurs

9 PRINCESS THEATRE.
VICTOR-VICTORIA 7:00 P.M.
THE ROSE 9:30 P.M.

23 2 SHOPPING DAYS
UNTIL
CHRISTMAS.

6

fri

10

24 CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
M.C.C. 7:30
(LEAVE SOMETHING FOR SANTA!)

7

sat

11 APOLLO: DINE & DANCE
M.C.C. CALGARY
(THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR
GUYS!!)

25 MERRY CHRISTMAS
PEACE ON EARTH AND
GOOD WILL TO ALL.

8

sun

12 COURT MEETING 3:00 P.M.
SEE-DARYL @ BOOTS
ROUGHNECKS VOLLEYBALL @
OLIVER SCHOOL.

26 BOXING DAY.....
PRINCESS THEATRE..
CASABLANCA - 9:30

9 ROUGHNECKS VOLLEYBALL
OLIVER SCHOOL
1:00-9:00 P.M.

mon

13

27 SNUGGLE UP BY THE
FIRE WITH A COGNAC
AND.....

10 FINE PRINT PRESENTS:
"OPENING NIGHT"
FASHION EXTRAVAGANZA

I AM CURIOUS (YELLOW)

Infectious Hepatitis is an infection of the liver usually caused by one of two virus particles Hepatitis A, or Hepatitis B. The more serious type is Hepatitis B. Approximately 20-40% of the total cases of Hepatitis B per year occur in gay males. Sexual transmission may account for 40% of all new Hepatitis B infections. The infectious virus particle can be transmitted in semen and saliva. Sexually active gay males run an extremely high risk of contracting Hepatitis B in their lifetime. In areas with large gay populations (San Francisco, New York) the chances are as high as 80%, in Edmonton perhaps 50%.

If a person contracts Hepatitis A, he may have a flu-like illness with nausea, vomiting, chills, often the whites of the eyes turn yellow, called jaundice. Usually the person recovers over the course of a couple of weeks and there are no further problems.

Hepatitis B infection can be another story. A person with this infection can be infected and yet not feel sick at all. This is the asymptomatic infection. A person can also be moderately ill with symptoms similar to those for Hepatitis A. Usually the patient recovers after a convalescence of a number of weeks. Unfortunately, a small percentage of patients become severely ill and die because of massive liver infection and failure.

A blood test will often show evidence of the virus particle (Hepatitis B surface antigen or HBsAg). The particle may disappear after several weeks or months; but, in an unknown number of cases, it may persist for years or even life.



These people are called "chronic carriers" and can transmit the virus particle through their blood or bodily secretions such as saliva and semen often without knowing that they've been infected or that they can transmit disease. A small portion of the chronic carriers go on to develop chronic liver disease, cirrhosis and may also develop primary cancer of the liver. So one can see Hepatitis B is a disease with major consequences.

Although there is no specific treatment for Hepatitis B a new vaccine has been developed and tested. According to most recent medical studies the vaccine is safe and successful in preventing Hepatitis B in susceptible individuals or those who have recently been exposed to it.

To determine if a person is susceptible to Hepatitis B, a blood test is taken and examined for HBsAg. If the test is negative, showing no evidence of the antigen, then the person has not been previously infected by Hepatitis B and is susceptible if exposed. This person would be a candidate for the new vaccine. It is now available in the United States. As yet, it has not been released in Canada. Federal health authorities, we hope, will approve and release it next

month. Once released its availability maybe a problem. There will not be very much vaccine around, and health care workers and allied groups (e.g. Dialysis unit workers, lab technicians, dentists, surgeons, etc.) who are susceptible to Hepatitis B because they work with blood and blood products will be given first priority. Hopefully, there will be vaccine for those in the gay community who are susceptible and who wish to be immunized.

The vaccine is given in three doses. The first followed by the final doses at one and six month intervals. It is felt this series of injections will give life-long protection.

If you are concerned about being susceptible to Hepatitis B and, if you are a gay male there is a 50%-80% life-long risk, you should have a blood test to screen you for HBsAg. If you have a regular physician, see him/her and ask for the test. It's important to tell your physician that you are gay. If your physician does not do this test or if you prefer an anonymous route for the test, the following facilities will do the test for you without hassle:

Social Hygiene Clinic - V.C. Clinic
10105 - 109 St. Edmonton
A Private Facility -
A private medical office with particular interest in sexually transmitted disease. For information on how to attend this clinic, phone G.A.T.E. - 424-8361. to obtain the phone number, address and a clinic card can be obtained.

Dr. Keep U. Healthy



CELEBRATION '83

Friday Dec. 31, 9pm til 3am

Bar open til 2am

regular admission

THE
ROOST



I SPENT CHRISTMAS ALONE

As they say, 'tis the season to be jolly and gay. I was asked to write a story about what it's like to be gay and alone on Christmas. To start I'm sure it's as lonely being by yourself whether you are gay or straight. No one wants to be alone any day.

I have been alone eight out of the past ten years. The emotions I've gone through vary so much it's hard to put them into words. Even though Christmas has always been happy for me it's very lonely. I have no complaints just that it would have been so much easier a day if I had been with someone.

Sometimes I travel to get away from being by myself, but no matter what I do or where I go Christmas is always Christmas. Every Christmas morning I wake and lie in bed for hours quivering, wondering what to do.

The past few years I have gone for very long walks and try to enjoy the loneliness. I caught on that this day is maybe a kind of blessing. No one around except my feelings.

I think about my life more this day than any other day of the year.

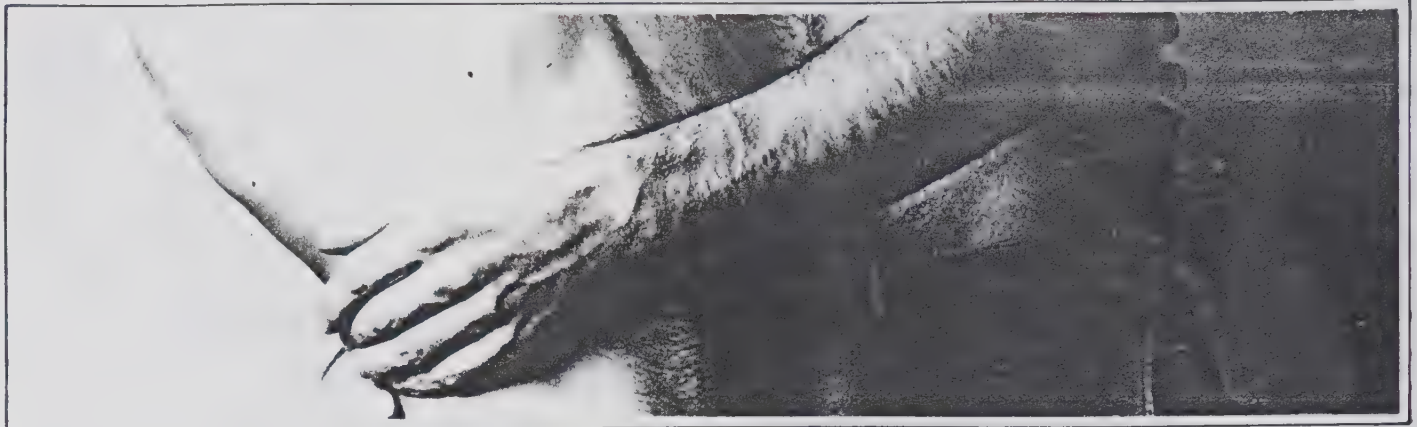
I think about everything: the past, the future, the people I have met that did me some good and those that did me wrong but never do I have any regrets. People have forgotten the real meaning of Christmas - life. That one word sums up Christmas for me. So no matter how alone I am, I am alive and make the best of it because Christmas is the best damn day of the year.

Merry Christmas, I hope you're not going to be alone but if you are be happy.

xox ONE

THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TELL YOU

Tom Edge



CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT SHARING -
TELL SOMEONE THIS YEAR

'Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality' by Betty Fairchild and Nancy Hayward. New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1979.

Once in awhile a book appears that has longlasting importance for the reader. Staying power, if you like. The sort of book which carries so much meaning for the reader that it is savoured again and again.

This book (which has been around for almost three years) has staying power too, not necessarily because it will be read and re-read but because there will always be someone somewhere who needs to read it. So long as there are gay men and women there will be parents who will have to deal with the reality of the sexual preferences of their homosexual child.

This book is one of the first in a new genre of literature dealing positively with the subject of homosexuality and aimed at non-gay relatives, friends, and colleagues of gays. Winner of the Gay Book Award of the American Library Association's Gay Task Force and appearing on the guide to recommended materials about homosexuality published by the Gay Interest Group of the Canadian Library Association, the book comes highly recommended. It deserves a place on the shelves along with Don Clarkes 'Loving Someone Gay', Laura Z. Hobson's novel 'Consenting Adult' and 'A Family Matter: A Parent's Guide to Homosexuality' by Charles Siverstein.

I suppose it is no wonder that many parents have difficulty with their son's or daughter's homosexuality given the misconceptions most straight Canadians have about their gay fellow citizens. Most of our parents, after all, are straight — otherwise we wouldn't be here! Of all the minority groups in the mosaic that is Canadian culture, the

gay community is the only one whose parents are not also members. It is unlikely that a book will ever appear telling Italian immigrant parents what it feels like for their offspring to be Italian-Canadian children. They already understand immigrant status. No so the parents of gays. We are the people they warned us about!

Both authors are parents of gays so they understand. They know what it's like when the bomb drops and every parental bone shrieks NO! They can empathize with an idiotically racing mind that scrambles from ... no grandchildren ... it's only a phase ... what did I do wrong ... to ... you can't be. NO! Just as many gay people have felt themselves to be the 'only ones in the world.' Fairchild and Hayward know what it's like to carry the Terrible Secret and deal with the burden of despair, seemingly alone.

No matter how your parents learn of your sexual preference, be it a chat near the end of an otherwise ordinary visit, a carefully worded letter, a phonecall, seeing you on television at a rally protesting the Pisces raid, or a picture of you in the 'Edmonton Journal' adjacent to an article on Edmonton's slow-pitch softball team (we should be so lucky), the news will probably cause them a fair bit of anguish. Ideally you would be available to discuss the matter with them later, to answer questions, and allay their fears. But circumstances may prevent this from happening. You may not live anywhere near your parents. They may feel reluctant to ask you questions or they may not be willing to consider the issue of your sexuality with you, preferring someone outside the family but not knowing where to turn. Whatever the case this book may be of assistance.

The work contains within its sympathetic narrative dozens of interviews with gay men and women and their parents. It talks about the myths, misconceptions and stereotypes commonly held by straight people and the problems

gays face in a homophobic society. There is a chapter on gays and religion which draws heavily upon 'The Church and the Homosexual' by the gay Roman Catholic priest John McNeill. The book ends with a chapter on the group known as Parents of Gays. At the time of writing the author leaned of a POG group in Edmonton! I wonder what happened to it? The chapter deals ends with hints for parents interested in forming their own group. Maybe we'll have a rebirth of the group here yet.

I have two criticisms of this 'I'm o.k., you're o.k.' book. First is it's naive assumption that talking to your parents will make everything alright, heal all wounds and do a great deal to change social attitudes. I wish that is all it would take. The second is its tendency to deal primarily with those aspects of gay like which conform most closely to the values of straight society. There is, for example, a chapter on gay couples but almost no mention of cruising, gay bars, baths, parks and casual sex — aspects of some gay people's lives which parents might have the most difficulty understanding.

Nevertheless the book is a good post-coming out starting place for meaningful dialogue between gays and their parents. The two points it makes over and over are valid: listen to your kids, they'll tell what it's really like to be gay; and, remember you're not alone, there are twenty to forty million other North American parents who have gay children too.

Why not consider this book as a Christmas gift? I am. It may be locally available in bookstores but you can order it from Glad Day Bookstore, 648A Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 2A6, (416) 961-4161. Their price is \$8.95 plus 75 cents for postage and handling. Alternatively, if you're not in a rush contact me (454-3083, evenings) and I'll do a special order.

Meanwhile, Merry Christmas and good reading.

HOMO 2% CREME D'LA CREME

No, I have not retired. A lot of people felt that after my B-day, a fossil working in a gay club was a little tasteless; however, I am convinced that there is life after Porcelana.

Anyway, I've had my wheelchair equipped with rockets and I'm still flying around, getting ready for New Year's.

The Flashback Follies are already in rehearsal for the New Year's show entitled HOMO OR 2%. It promises to be quite a festive event.

Advance Tickets Only!

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Show starts at 9:00 p.m.

Club will be open to members and their guests after 10:00 p.m.

Bar closes at 2:00 a.m.

Those wishing to attend the dinner and show may purchase their tickets at the door for \$30 per person. Quantities are limited folks, so get them early.

After 10 O'clock, door prices will be \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

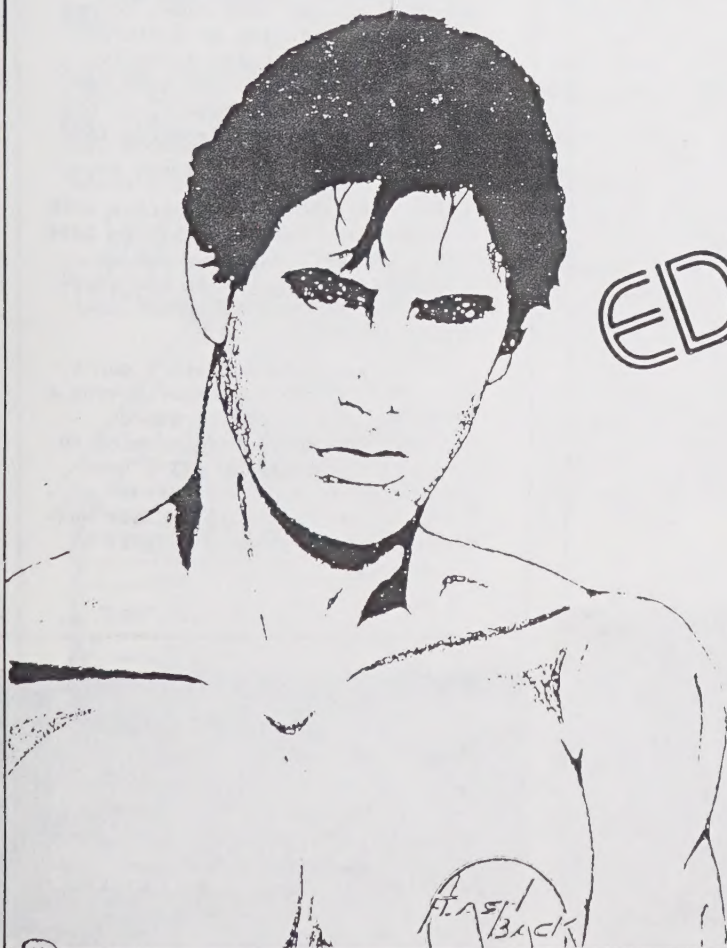
Those interested in performing or helping with the show are invited to contact me as soon as possible at Flashback.

Yours in fun and frivolity,
David, Mr. FB VII

HOT TRAX RECORDS

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A SPEECH FROM
THE THRONE

As I sit here in my tastefully decorated "salle de living", sipping my homemade cherry wine in my brand new lounge wear from Woolworth's, I reflect on why my social life has taken such a dive for lower-level histrionics. "Could it be", I wondered, "That my recent experience whilst shopping at that ultra elite A & N Boutique had something to do with it?" Let me relate the experience to you.

I'd entered the aforementioned shopping place to buy new lingerie so I ran upstairs, straight to the "ironclad" section where I perused the merchandise until finding my size (32). Well, I stepped into the "salle de dressing" and slipped into my new "Lovehearts" brand formfit, uplift, separating, no bind, you-won't-believe-it's-a-girdle and stepped back to appraise the effect. Well, it actually most resembled a test tube with something bubbling out at the top. That would never do! I reached into my handbag and swung that tired platinum wig (which I just happened to have with me) onto my head and again stepped back to reassess. Well, it was better but it still needed some improvement so I reached into my bag and dug out my once famous but now merely innovative rusty pumps and that "Emerald City" eyeshadow and slapped them on. By this time, things were really swinging so I slipped down my left strap for a really "sultry" look and leaned back for some real depth. Suddenly, I lost my balance and fell backwards into the aisle.

Well, there I was in the aisle of the Army and Navy wrestling with a change room curtain, with my left breast ENTIRELY exposed, and at least six policemen with two store detectives and one EXTREMELY annoying Doberman.

Well, as it turns out, I can't shop there anymore without giving a three-day notice and an armed escort. So, now I have nothing to do in life anymore so all I have left to do is drown my sorrows at Flashback on Wednesday because Wednesdays are Roughnecks' nights at Flashback.

Mrs. K.

If you wear your keys, handkerchief, and other regalia on your right side, you will be considered a masochist. If on the left, a sadist. Should you wear such items on both sides, you will be considered merely confused.

WANDERLUST

Dear Wanderlust,

Who would have ever guessed we would be taking our winter vacation down here. We'll have to admit that PHOENIX has taken us by surprise.

From the moment we stepped on our non-stop charter flight, we knew we had made the right choice. From checking out the boys in the fourth row to our overly friendly purser on Flight 872, we knew that we were not alone!

From our Boeing 737 window, we were amazed to see a city of nearly two million below us. With a quick shuffle through PHX Airport, we were on our way to our hotel. Renting a car was the only decision we agreed upon - and the best! With the city being so spread out, a car enabled us to enjoy all of Phoenix and beyond.

With a quick call to the Gay Information number, we soon realised that Phoenix offered less than San Francisco, but definitely had more to offer than Edmonton. With a list of twenty or more night spots, we were on our way. Tonight PHILLIP'S? or maybe TAYLOR'S? or THE CONNECTION? Oh fuck, why not all three? With only seventeen more to go, do you think we'll make it? WE DO!! After all, with the 80°F. weather and unlimited sunshine, a speedy recovery is guaranteed every day.

Wish you were here. Lots of love,

D. & B.

P.S. Gay Information: 274-0927
P.P.S. Little Jim's, Hot Bods, Ram Rod, Trax, New Town Saloon, The Annex, Bronco's, Fara's, Sammy's, The Grand Camel, etc., etc., etc.

HOT TRAX RECORDS Top 20 Dance Tracks

- 1 IT'S RAINING MEN - Weather Girls
- 2 MICKEY - Toni Basil
- 3 IN THE NAME OF LOVE - Sharon Red
- 4 WHITE WEDDING/HOT IN THE CITY - Billy Idol
- 5 MASTERPIECE - Cazebo
- 6 CAN'T BELIEVE - Nancy Martin
- 7 LIES - Thompson Twins
- 8 CITY OF NIGHT - Rational Youth
- 9 MIND WARP (LP) - Patrick Cowley
- 10 COME AND GET YOUR LOVE/BASE - Live
- 11 SHY BOY - Bananarama
- 12 DOMINO DANCE - Logic System
- 13 WORK ME OVER/I WILL FOLLOW HIM - Claudja Barry
- 14 DON'T GO/SITUATION - Yaz
- 15 FANTASY - Hotline
- 16 GIVE SOME MORE - K.C.
- 17 DA DA DA - Two
- 18 SHOOT YOUR SHOT - Divine
- 19 CAN'T HELP FALLING IN LOVE - Techna Twins

SINEVIEW

JINX



My first reaction to Bette Midler's new movie 'Jinx' was disappointment. Scene one shows Bette (with bleached hair) singing in a country and western tavern - not her usual loud, aggressive self.

Perhaps this was planned, so as to exemplify her wit and sarcasm when it does appear. It was humorous to see Bette's cavalier, 'F' you attitude just when her husband's chauvanism seems to be getting the best of her. Being the bigot that he was, it didn't bring any sympathy to my heart when Bette decided to do away with him.

'Jinx' is a simple story with a 'happily ever after' ending, but the humour and excitement are fun. It's a fast moving show and although Bette doesn't sing, except once, she still manages to play with our emotions.

After my initial disappointment, I enjoyed the movie very much. Of course, Bette will always be Divine in my eyes, but if you like gambling and Bette Midler there's a good chance of enjoying this movie.

Sue

Hospital emergency wards report that most homosexuals are admitted for injuries that may be classified as "disco related."

It is possible to kill oneself by eating quiche every Sunday at brunch for more than two years.

Worst opening line at a bar: "What's your sign?"

STEROTYPING

B.B. Band - WE THE PEOPLE
(red vynal, Italian Import)

Including an incredible remix of the smash hit 'All Night Long', this album has a varied sampling of the music made in Italy - a little funk and a little disco synthesizer meets soul. 'You'd Better Straighten Up Baby', the best new cut, has all of the Eurodisco features that guarantee hit status in the clubs. A debut album for B.B. Band, this L.P. is a must!

Toni Basil - MICKEY
(12" extended mix)

The best song heard in the clubs today with no doubt has to be 'Mickey'. This song is responsible for more fallen arches than any other new wave record ever. The D.J.'s favourite.

Claudja Barry - I WILL FOLLOW HIM/
WORK ME OVER

The original disco queen has returned with a disco single that should make her a favourite once again. It's traditionally disco fast, pretty, and quite fun to dance to. If your thing is Eurodisco, then this record is for you. Both cuts are hit potential.



THE CLOSET



Men's clothing has been very difficult to find in the City of Edmonton. So The Closet will be getting shipments of clothes from Los Angeles and San Francisco. These clothes will be new and the sort you will not find in other stores. We have had one shipment of

501 blue jeans come in and will be getting more at the end of November. The Closet is also still taking clothes on consignment so go through your wardrobe and see what you want to sell. It's a good way to make some extra money.

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